AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 14, 28 and 42 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for controlling the flow of data in a base transceiver station comprising:

a) providing first and second upstream devices;

b) providing a downstream device including a backplane interface wherein the backplane interface is independently coupled to each first and second upstream devices; and

c) enabling simultaneous communication between the downstream device and the first and second upstream device via the backplane interface.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the first and second upstream devices each comprise a base transceiver station manager.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the downstream device comprises multiple independent downstream devices.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3 wherein each independent downstream device comprises a channel module.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the first and second base transceiver station managers include redundancy capabilities.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4 wherein the backplane interface is independently coupled to each base transceiver station manager.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the backplane interface transmits and receives data to and from the first and second base transceiver station managers simultaneously via independent data paths.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the backplane interface comprises a clock reference selection circuit and a data path multiplexor.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the clock reference selection circuit is utilized to immediately switch to the first or second base transceiver station manager upon detection of a failure of the first or second base transceiver station manager.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the backplane interface further comprises a data path de-multiplexor.

11. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the data comprises a frame data structure.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the data frame structure comprises a frame sync portion, a provisioning information portion, a control portion and a payload portion.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein the data frame structure is in a table format including seven columns and ten rows.

14. (Previously Withdrawn) The method of claim 13 wherein the table format comprises seven columns and ten rows.

15. (Previously Presented) A wireless communication system comprising:

one or more antenna(e); and

at least one base transceiver station, coupled to the one or more antenna(e), to enable transmitting and receiving signals to and from at least one subscriber unit, the at least one base transceiver station comprising:

a first upstream device;

a second upstream device coupled to the first upstream device; and

a downstream device, coupled the first and second upstream devices, wherein the downstream device comprises a backplane interface independently coupled to each of the first upstream device and the second upstream device, to enable simultaneous communication between the downstream device and the first and second upstream devices.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein the first and second upstream devices each comprise a base transceiver station manager.

17. (Original) The system of claim 16 wherein the downstream device comprises multiple independent downstream devices.

18. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17 wherein each independent downstream device comprises a channel module.

19. (Original) The system of claim 18 wherein the first and second base transceiver station manager include redundancy capabilities.

20. (Original) The system of claim 18 wherein the channel module comprises a backplane interface wherein the backplane interface is independently coupled to each base transceiver station manager.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20 wherein the backplane interface comprises means for transmitting and receiving data to and from the first and second base transceiver station managers simultaneously via independent data paths.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein the means for receiving data is coupled to a clock reference selection circuit and a data path multiplexor.

23. (Original) The system of claim 22 wherein the clock reference selection circuit is utilized to immediately switch to the first or second base transceiver station manager upon detection of a failure of the first or second base transceiver station manager.

24. (Original) The system of claim 22 wherein the means for transmitting data is coupled to a data path de-multiplexor.

25. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein the data comprises a data frame structure.

26. (Original) The system of claim 24 wherein the data frame structure comprises a frame sync portion, a provisioning information portion, a control portion and a payload portion.

27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 26 wherein the data frame structure is in a table format arranged in seven columns and ten rows.

28. (Previously Withdrawn) The system of claim 27 wherein the table format comprises seven columns and ten rows.

29. (Previously Presented) A base transceiver station for use in a wireless communication system including:

a first upstream device;

a second upstream device coupled to the first upstream device; and

a downstream device coupled to the first and second upstream devices wherein the downstream device comprises a backplane interface independently coupled to each of the first upstream device and the second upstream device to enable simultaneous communication between the downstream device and the first and second upstream devices.

30. (Original) The base transceiver station of claim 29 wherein the first and second upstream devices each comprise a base transceiver station manager.

31. (Original) The base transceiver station of claim 30 wherein the downstream device comprises multiple independent downstream devices.

32. (Previously Presented) The base transceiver station of claim 31 wherein each independent downstream device comprises a channel module.

33. (Original) The base transceiver station of claim 32 wherein the first and second base transceiver station manager include redundancy capabilities.

34. (Original) The base transceiver station of claim 32 wherein the channel module comprises a backplane interface wherein the backplane interface is independently coupled to each base transceiver station manager.

35. (Original) The base transceiver station of claim 34 wherein the backplane interface comprises means for transmitting and receiving data to and from the first and second base transceiver station managers simultaneously via independent data paths.

36. (Original) The base transceiver station of claim 35 wherein the means for receiving data is coupled to a clock reference selection circuit and a data path multiplexor.

37. (Original) The base transceiver station of claim 36 wherein the clock reference selection circuit is utilized to immediately switch to the first or second base transceiver station manager upon detection of a failure of the first or second base transceiver station manager.

38. (Original) The base transceiver station of claim 36 wherein the means for transmitting data is coupled to a data path de-multiplexor.

39. (Previously Presented) The base transceiver station of claim 35 wherein the data comprises a data frame structure.

40. (Original) The base transceiver station of claim 39 wherein the data frame structure comprises a frame sync portion, a provisioning information portion, a control portion and a payload portion.

41. (Previously Presented) The base transceiver station of claim 40 wherein the data frame structure is in a table format arranged as seven columns and ten rows.

42. (Previously Withdrawn) The base transceiver station of claim 41 wherein the table format comprises seven columns and ten rows.

43. (Previously Presented) A data frame structure for use in a wireless communication system, the wireless communication system including a first upstream device, a second upstream device, and a downstream device, the data frame structure comprising:

a frame sync portion;

a provisioning information portion;

a control portion; and

a payload portion wherein the data frame structure facilitates a simultaneous bi-directional flow of data between the downstream device and the first and second upstream devices, wherein the downstream device is independently coupled to each of the first and second upstream devices via a backplane interface.

44. (Original) The data frame structure of claim 43 wherein the data frame structure is in a table format.

45. (Original) The data frame structure of claim 44 wherein the table format comprises seven columns and ten rows.